



Magna Carta Uncovered

Anthony Arlidge, Igor Judge

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2015 marks the 800th anniversary of the grant at Runnymede of liberties to the freemen in Magna Carta. The story of how Magna Carta came into being, and has been interpreted since, has more twists and turns than the best soap opera. This book tells the history of Magna Carta in a concise and readable fashion and will be of interest to the lawyer and layman alike. The authors bring their unrivalled interpretative skills to uncover the original meaning of the liberties enshrined in Magna Carta, and they trace the development of liberties in later centuries, up to the drafting of the Constitution of the United States. The charter was ground breaking in the way subjects tried to limit the power and conduct of government. At the same time, it was a conservative document, following the form of Anglo- Saxon charters and trying to return government to the ways of early Norman and Angevin kings. *** "Co-written by Anthony Arlidge (a Queen's Counsel for more than 30 years and in 1990 was called upon during a case to argue the meaning of clause 40 of Magna Carta) and retired Lord Chief Justice of England and Wales Igor Judge, 'Magna Carta Uncovered' is a 238 page history and detailed explanation of the Magna Carta and its place in English (and subsequently American) law. Extraordinarily well written, 'Magna Carta Uncovered' will prove to be an invaluable addition to community and academic library history collections..." - Midwest Book Review, Library Bookwatch, World History Shelf, March 2015 *** "Arlidge and Judge...give fascinating accounts of the afterlife of the Great Charter: how it influenced the development of Parliament and the fierce debates of the 17th century, how large chunks of it were incorporated in the constitutions of the American colonies, how it has been quoted in the most unlikely places wherever liberty has been in danger." - London Review of Books, April 23, 2015 [Subject: Legal History, Constitutional Law, Administrative Law]

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